Assemblymember Vargas, Police, and Firefighters Join Neighbors In Anti-crime March

On Tuesday, August 2, 2005, Assemblyman Juan Vargas joined more than 800 area residents for the 22nd Annual National Night Out Crime Free Walk. The march began at 5:00 pm from the San Diego Police Department's Headquarters in downtown San Diego and ended at the Central Division's Substation on the corner of 25th and Imperial Avenue. At the conclusion of the walk, all participants were treated to a community barbecue, live music, and a special program emceed by Lena Lewis from KUSI-TV.

Organized by the City of San Diego, the San Diego Police Department, the California Highway Patrol, the Office of Assemblymember Juan Vargas, and San Diegans United for Safe Neighborhoods, the event demonstrated the community's support for local anti-crime efforts.

"We must make every effort to ensure that our residents know our neighborhoods are our top priority," stated Assemblymember Juan Vargas. "Working together and building partnerships will demonstrate that our communities are united and well protected."

Assemblymember Juan Vargas and San Diego District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis join police officers and community residents at this year's National Night Out march against crime.

Residents joined forces to participate in this national event in an attempt to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness. "This event is an opportunity for residents to get a chance to meet the law enforcement officers and neighbors living in our community," said Ryan Brink, a Golden Hill resident.

National Night Out is an annual event designed to strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community relations. The event also sends a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

National Night Out involves more than 10,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases internationally.